

paying almost \$5 a gallon for diesel fuel.

Well, the oil companies are making record profits. The oil executives are making record salaries and bonuses and are getting record amounts of compensation, and we don't think it is appropriate at this time for the American taxpayers to continue paying billions of dollars in tax breaks to the oil companies. We are going to vote on this Tuesday morning.

The other section of our bill forces oil companies to do their part by investing part of their profits in clean and affordable alternative energy.

Third: We protect the American people from price gougers and greedy oil traders who manipulate the market.

Finally, a bipartisan section of this bill. Senators SPECTER and KOHL came to see me yesterday, both longtime members of the Judiciary Committee who believe that OPEC and others who are colluding to keep oil prices high should be subject to this Sherman Antitrust Act. Senator SPECTER went through all the legal reasons, and as we all know, he is a real legal scholar. So I am convinced he is right and we should do this.

The Consumer First Energy Act does exactly what it promises: It ends more than 7 years of the Cheney energy policy that has lined the pockets of modern-day oil barons and left the American people to pay the bill.

Finally, it puts consumers first. Is this a silver bullet ending all the problems? Of course not. But it is a bill that will solve some of the energy problems we have in our country today.

This legislation is an important step that will make a difference, as I have said, in the long and the short run. So I hope the minority will put their votes where their mouths have been all week. Passing this smart, responsible bill will help put American families first and help take another step on the road to a renewable revolution.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. President, normally what we do is ask unanimous consent to move forward on this legislation. We know the minority, if they were here, would object. They are not here, so rather than embarrass anyone, I will now move to proceed to Calendar No. 743, S. 3044, and send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to S. 3044, the Consumer-First Energy Act of 2008.

Harry Reid, Barbara Boxer, Charles E. Schumer, Sheldon Whitehouse, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Benjamin L. Cardin, Daniel K. Akaka, Jack Reed, Claire McCaskill, Christopher J. Dodd, Amy Klobuchar, Patrick J. Leahy, Barbara A. Mikulski, Frank R. Lautenberg, Carl Levin.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I now withdraw the motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is withdrawn.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I filed cloture on the motion to proceed to the legislation that I outlined, S. 3044, which is the Consumer First Energy Act. I am going to shortly move to proceed to H.R. 6049, the Renewable Energy and Job Creation Act of 2008. However, prior to doing that, I was going to ask unanimous consent that if cloture were invoked on the motion to proceed to S. 3044, that then the cloture motion on H.R. 6049 would be withdrawn. Since there is no one from the Republican side here to launch an objection, which I am told they would do, I am not going to ask for unanimous consent today but will do so on Monday when a Republican is here in the Senate.

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND JOB CREATION ACT OF 2008—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 767, H.R. 6049, energy production and conservation, and I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 767, H.R. 6049, the Renewable Energy and Job Creation Act of 2008.

Harry Reid, Barbara Boxer, Sherrod Brown, Robert Menendez, Kent Conrad, Daniel K. Inouye, Byron L. Dorgan, Jon Tester, Richard Durbin, Patty Murray, Max Baucus, John D. Rockefeller IV, Maria Cantwell, Frank R. Lautenberg, John F. Kerry, Blanche L. Lincoln, E. Benjamin Nelson.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum required under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—MEDICARE IMPROVEMENT FOR PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS ACT OF 2008

Mr. REID. Mr. President, notwithstanding an adjournment of the Senate today, June 6, I ask unanimous consent that the bill relating to the Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act of 2008, introduced by Senators BOXER and SNOWE, among others, be considered to have received a first reading and objection made to further proceedings on Friday, June 6; that it then receive its second reading on the next legislative day; and that this request is only valid until 5 p.m. today, Friday, June 6.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3:15 p.m., Monday, June 9; following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 728, S. 3044, the Consumer First Energy Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. As I have said earlier, Mr. President, there will be no rollcall votes on Monday. Senators should be prepared to vote Tuesday morning.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008, AT 3:15 P.M.

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:08 p.m., adjourned until Monday, June 9, 2008, at 3:15 p.m.